

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application, and claims 4-31 are withdrawn from consideration at this time. Reconsideration of the claims, in view of the remarks below, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,574,130 (Segal), filed July 25, 2001. Applicants note, however, that the instant application claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/915,093, now U.S. Patent No. 6,919,592, filed July 25, 2001. The specification of 6,919,592 is identical to that of Segal, and was filed on an even date. Therefore, if Segal were to anticipate the claims, then 6,919,592 would support a priority claim to the same subject matter, and Segal would not constitute prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Moreover, the claims recite novel features. Claim 1 recites “a defined patch of nanotube fabric disposed in spaced relation to the trace.” Figures 2A-2C illustrate a few embodiments of a defined patch of nanotube fabric in spaced relation to a trace.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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